

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 098208
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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP

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S/S-O:DROBINSON

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S E C R E T STATE 098208

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOL RPT PARIS 12413 ACTION SECSTATE INFO JERUSALEM TEL AVIV
BEIRUT 15 APR 78 QUOTE

S E C R E T PARIS 12413

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS-1

TAGS: MOPS, UNSC, FR, IS, LE

SUBJ: FRENCH ANNOYED WITH SIILASVUO

REF: PARIS 11971

1. IN A CONVERSATION EVENING APRIL 13 WITH QUAI ACTING
DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EAST, SERVANT,
WE WERE INFORMED THAT GOF SOMEWHAT MIFFED AT GENERAL
SIILASVUO'S "IMPRUDENCE." QUAI BELIEVES THAT SIILASVUO
HAS NOT BEEN PUSHING THE ISRAELIS ON WITHDRAWAL BECAUSE
HE DOES NOT THINK UNIFIL BIG ENOUGH AND THAT HE HAS
ALSO UNDERCUT US AND FRENCH EFFORTS TO GET THE GOL

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TO SEND TROOPS TO THE SOUTH.

2. THIS LATTER SURFACED WHEN FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO
LEBANON, ARGOD, CARRIED OUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO BACK
UP AMBASSADOR PARKER'S ARGUMENTS FOR SENDING LEBANESE
TROOPS TO THE SOUTH WITHOUT DELAY. FONMIN BOUTROS
APPARENTLY TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER

WITH SIILASVUO WHO HAD SAID THERE NO URGENCY SINCE
UNIFIL STILL TOO WEAK TO TAKE OVER FROM THE ISRAELIS.

3. WE KNOW FROM PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH QUAI
OFFICIALS THAT SIILASVUO GENERALLY HELD IN QUITE HIGH
ESTEEM HERE AND WE DO NOT THINK PRESENT ANNOYANCE
WILL INHIBIT COOPERATION WITH HIM. FRENCH SENSITIVITY
TO SIILASVUO'S TALK ABOUT UNIFIL'S INADEQUATE SIZE IS
RELATED TO QUESTION OF FURTHER INCREASING FRENCH
CONTRIBUTION TO THE FORCE WHICH GOF NOT PREPARED TO DO
FOR POLITICAL REASONS (REFTEL).

4. SERVANT SAID GOF VERY PLEASED BY NIGERIAN DECISION
TO CONTRIBUTE TO UNIFIL AS PARTICIPATION BY THIS
PRESTIGIOUS AFRICAN STATE WILL ADD CONSIDERABLY TO
UNIFIL'S STANDING. QUAI ASSUMES U.S. INTERVENTION
WITH FMG WAS DECISIVE FACTOR IN NIGERIAN DECISION.

5. SERVANT SAYS HE EXPECTS SENEGALESE UNIT TO BE IN
PLACE BY THE END OF THE MONTH.
HARTMAN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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